

Forever Angels



Hello Everyone,

My friend is 82 years old and she lost her eldest son this past week. He was 2 days shy of his 57th birthday. He was walking on the street when he collapsed and paramedics needed to restart his heart. In short, he ended up on life- support and the agonizing decision had to be made to let him go. Because his initial situation began on the street, i.e. public property, there was/is additional red tape she needs to face as city officials make sure that his death was not caused by something malfunctioning in the public forum (e.g. broken sidewalk, falling tree limb, etc.).

My friend is also a widow and while two of her remaining children were there for her, she was obliged to face the loss of her child without her husband. She asked, "why him and not me? I am older, I should have gone before him." She shared with me: "I cannot believe I will not see him again or ever hear his voice again."

There is no right time to lose a child (or children), everything about losing a child is wrong, and despite the ages involved, this situation, the emotional experiences are no different than if he had been 10 years, 5 years or 6 months old. She remains bereft at her child's death. She, like so many of us, is a Mother who could not protect her child from death. His loss is monumental for her and in a perfect world, we would never have to bury our children. It is just not the right order of things.

Thinking of you,

Lynda

We can't have old days back,
When we were all together.
But secret tears and loving thoughts,
Will be with me forever.

~ from an obituary

On the Net.....

Christina and her husband lost twin daughters in August of 2006 and she has blogged about that experience as well as two sons born since their loss at <http://ourdaughtershavewings.typepad.com> It's a lovely and moving tribute not only to their daughters but also about the journey to two healthy sons. A warning, that there are photos which you are not obliged to look at should you not wish to.

You cannot do a kindness too soon, because you never know how soon it will be too late.

~Proverb

Grief Support Literature.....

For and About Children.....

Always my Twin, by Valerie R. Samuels

We were gonna have baby, but we had an angel instead, by Pat Schwiebert

Sibling Grief, by P. Gill White, Ph.D.

A Child's View of Grief, by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D.

Straight Talk about Death for Teenagers, by Earl A. Grollman

Talking about Death: A dialogue between parent and child, by Earl. A. Grollman

For Parents.....

Planning A Precious Goodbye, by Sherokee Ilse and Susan Erling Martinez

Our Baby Died. Why? by Jake Erling

Miscarriage, Women Sharing from the Heart, by Marie Allen and Shelly Marks

Empty Cradle, Broken Heart: Surviving the Death of Your Baby, by Deborah L. Davis, Ph.D.

When a Twin or Triplet Dies, Multiple Birth Foundation (UK)

The Lone Twin: understanding twin bereavement and Loss, by Joan Woodward

For Men....

Men & Grief, a guide for men surviving the death of a loved one, by Carol Staudacher

When Men Grieve: why men grieve differently & how you can help, by Elizabeth Levang, Ph.D.

For Surviving Co-Multiples...

Twin Loss: a book for Survivor Twins, by Raymond William Brandt (a surviving twin)

The Survivor, by Lynne Schulz (mother of a surviving twin)

The Diary, by Lynne Schulz (mother of a surviving twin)

Living Without Your Twin, by Betty Jean Case (is a twin, has twin brothers and twin grandchildren)

The End of The Twins, by Saul Diskin (surviving twin)

Trying to Recover...

Trying Again After Loss, by Ann Douglas and John R. Sussman, M.D.

The Worst Loss: How families heal from the death of a child, by Barbara D. Rosof

Grandparents.....

Grieving Grandparents, by Sherokee Ilse and Lori Leininger

Please feel free to write to us about anything you read in Forever Angels, what works for you and what doesn't. We also welcome your stories, thoughts, poems, articles or just because. Should you wish to be removed from the distribution list or have changed your e-mail address, please let us know.